

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RONALD S. KUPTZIN ET AL

Serial No.

Filed

CLASP FOR JEWELRY CHAIN

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

VERIFIED DECLARATION CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(b) INDEPENDENT INVENTOR

As one of the inventors, I hereby declare that we qualify as an independent inventors as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled CLASP FOR JEWELRY CHAIN described in the specification being filed concurrently herewith.

We have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern

which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

July 14, 2000
Date

Ronald S Kuptzin
RONALD S. KUPTZIN
27 Rossie Street
Mystic, Connecticut 06355

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

WE, RONALD S. KUPTZIN, and CYNTHIA G. KUPTZIN, hereby declare that we are citizens of the United States of America and residents of Mystic, Connecticut, and Mystic, Connecticut and that our Post Office and Residence Addresses are 27 Rossie Street, Mystic, Connecticut 06355, and 27 Rossie Street, Mystic, Connecticut 06355; respectively, that we believe we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

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the specification of which is attached hereto.

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

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We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

We hereby appoint Peter L. Costas, Registration No. 18,637, whose Post Office Address is Pepe & Hazard LLP, 225 Asylum Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06103, our attorney to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. Address all correspondence to Peter L. Costas at the aforesaid address and direct all telephone calls to him at Area Code 860, Telephone No. 241-2630.

July 14, 2000

Date

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